

JORDAN TIMES

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جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر في عمّان عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الزاي»

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Spassan, Tharwat return from U.K.

MAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Friday along received His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Tharwat at Amman airport upon their arrival on a special visit to the United Kingdom. Also present at the airport were the Prime Minister, Mr. Mudar ar-Ran, the Chief of the Royal Cabinet, Mr. Sharif ul-Hamid Sharaf, Sharif Nasser Ibn Jamil, Prince Sultan Ibn Zaid, the Chief Chamberlain and other government officials and their wives.

Volume 2, Number 322

AMMAN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1977 — SAFAR 9, 1397

Price: 50 fils

Madrid police launch manhunt for slayers of 3 policemen

AMMAN, Jan. 28 (APF). — Interior Minister Roman Villa today launched a vast manhunt by securing in Madrid after gunning three policemen and wounding three others. Villa ordered searches to arrest all "elements belonging to extremist groups." He appealed to the public to remain calm, and stated that the government was determined to prevent the recurrence of these terrorist acts which were committed by anti-minority groups.

An official statement said two members of the armed police were shot down while guarding a post office in the working class suburb of Campamento. Two civil guardsmen were later gunned down at a post office in the outlying Los Angeles quarter of Madrid. One of the two civil guards was killed and the other seriously wounded, the statement said.

The statement added that two other civil guards rushing to the scene were critically wounded when their car was ambushed and shot up by machinegun fire.

An unprecedented manhunt is underway for the killers and police roadblocks have been set up throughout southern section of Madrid and its suburbs, the scene of this morning's shootings.

Police said several known extreme rightwing militants were rounded up and were being questioned.

Police guards were withdrawn from buildings occupied by opposition parties and trade unions in order to take part in the manhunt. As a result, the political groups and union organizations were advised to evacuate the buildings.

Attacks of the type carried out today had been feared by the government. A series of anti-terrorist measures apparently aimed at rightwing militants were taken after five men were shot to death at a meeting of leftwing lawyers on Monday night.

Several officials expressed fear there was a plot by rightwing extremists to torpedo plans to make the government more democratic.

Leftwing opposition parties warned their followers early this week to refrain from being dragged into a vicious circle of violence by rightwing "desperados."

The ambush of the civil guard car and the two shootings that preceded it apparently were carried out with professional deadliness, observers noted.

After felling the two policemen at Campamento with surprise shots today, the killers coolly emptied the magazines of their pistols into the victims' bodies.

The precision and calmness of the slaying recalled that demonstrated in the sub-machinegun attack on the lawyers four days ago.

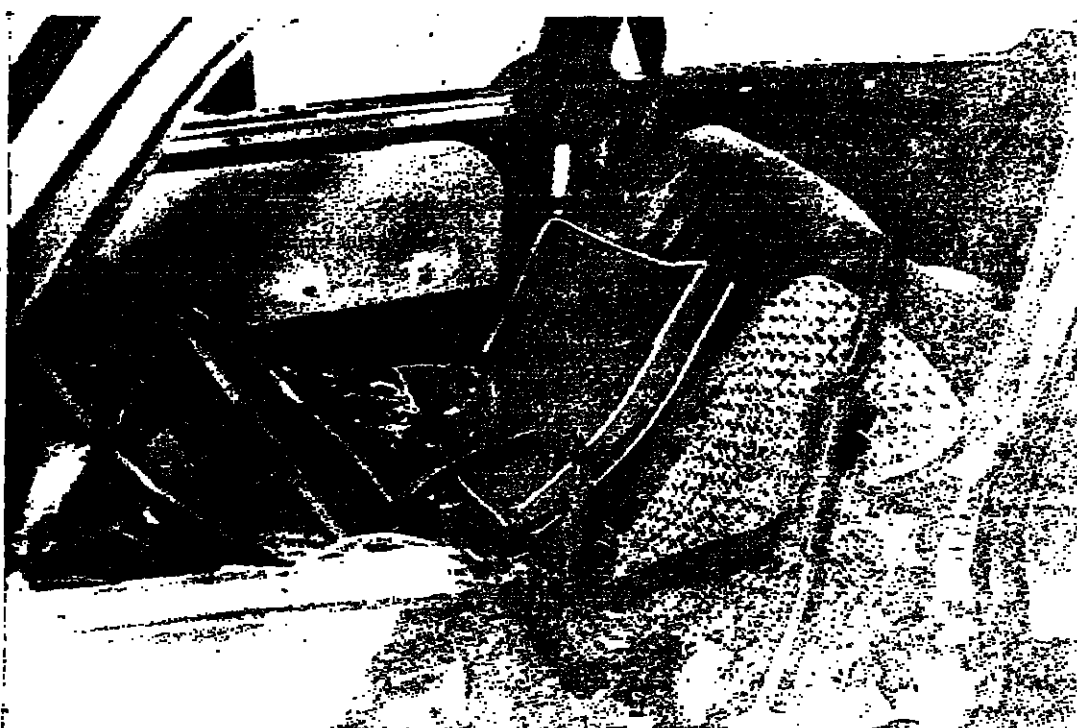
The statement said President Makarios briefed Mr. Karamanlis before and after the meeting with Mr. Denktaş.

In Washington, the United States said today it hoped the meeting in Cyprus between President Makarios and Mr. Denktaş would lead quickly to meaningful negotiations on the Cyprus question.

The State Department said in a statement that it welcomed the meeting which marked the first time in nearly 14 years that the two leaders had met.

"Our pleasure at the meeting," the statement said, "is combined with a hope that this sign of progress will quickly be translated into a meaningful and sustained effort to negotiate the many issues which must be solved to reach an equitable Cyprus settlement."

"We recognize that this will be a very complicated undertaking. The United States stands ready to continue its full support and assistance to the two Cypriot communities and to United Nations Secretary General (Kurt) Waldheim in his search for a solution to the problem of Cyprus," it added.



NASTY MESS -- Two civil guardsmen were critically injured Friday in this car when it came under heavy machinegun fire in the outskirts of Madrid. (AP wirephoto).

Wafa denies interview ever given Al Ahram quotes Arafat: Palestinians received severe blow in Lebanon

CAIRO, Jan. 28 (R). — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was quoted by the Egyptian daily newspaper Al Ahram as saying that Palestinian commandos had "received a severe blow" in the Lebanese civil war, but that they would "go on the offensive" in the next few days.

The statement was almost immediately denied by an official spokesman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Beirut.

The Palestine news agency Wafa quoted the official spokesman as saying that Mr. Arafat had not met any of the newspaper's editorial staff and the statement attributed to him was "fabricated and unfounded."

The remarks, attributed to Mr. Arafat by a correspondent of Al Ahram, were ambiguous. But observers here said the target for Palestinian action would seem to be Israel, which has enjoyed virtual immunity from guerrilla attack for more than a year while the Palestinians have been fighting on the left side in the civil war in Lebanon.

Al Ahram said that Mr. Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, had admitted that the Palestinian movement has "received a severe blow in Lebanon and that the Palestinian military struggle had been adversely affected by Lebanon's civil war."

Mr. Arafat was quoted as saying "the exigencies of Arab national security impose a temporary freeze on the (Palestinian) resistance in southern Lebanon. But the first few days will witness a specific change in the Palestinian military action and the commandos will reappear to prove to all that the resistance has not ended."

Al Ahram further alluded that Mr. Arafat said the Palestinians wanted to attend any reconvened Geneva peace conference and to set up their own state. The official policy on this is to be determined at a meeting in Cairo next month of the Palestinian National Council, a kind of parliament in exile.

But one of Mr. Arafat's chief aides, Abu Maher, was quoted in the same interview, as saying that the Palestinians would not go to Geneva if the conference were held on the basis of Security Council resolution 242 of 1967. He said the Palestinians rejected this resolution which treated the Palestinian problem as one of refugees.

Nor would the Palestinians agree to sign a peace agreement with Israel or recognise the existence of Israel, Abu Maher added.

They described the Israeli reaction to the presence of Syrians in Nabatiyah as ludicrous in view of the small number of men involved.

There are no official figures on the strength of the Syrian peace-keeping force in the Nabatiyah area but the sources estimated it at no more than 500.

An editorial in the newspaper of Syria's ruling Baath Party yesterday said that attempts at pressure, political blackmail or threats would be ignored.

Reports on behind-the-scenes negotiations between Israel and Syria, via U.S. embassies in the two countries, today coincided with another outbreak of fighting in south Lebanon between the opposing forces of the Lebanese civil war.

Residents in northern Israel villages said the battle appeared to be in progress across the Litani river between the Lebanese Christian village of Qle'a, about two kms from the Israeli border, and the medieval Crusader castle of Beaufort on the Jabal Sakif hills.

Heavy mist and rain reduced visibility but the sounds of heavy machine guns and light

Israel adopts more conciliatory attitude on south Lebanon

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (R). — Israeli officials said today that they regard the presence of Syrian troops close to its border with Lebanon as serious, but believe the situation can be resolved by diplomatic means.

The reference to diplomacy was seen as an attempt to defuse a potentially explosive situation following the arrival of Syrian forces at the south Lebanon town of Nabatiyah, 11 kms from the border, and a subsequent Israeli demand that they be withdrawn after collecting heavy weapons from Lebanese leftist and Palestinian forces within a matter of days.

The demand was sent to the United States with a request that it be forwarded to "all parties involved."

The conciliatory approach to the presence of Arab League troops, mainly Syrian, in south Lebanon followed an earlier warning by Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon that the southward advance of Syrian troops was bringing them close to what Israel regarded as dangerous limits beyond which they could not be allowed to pass.

The warning was contained in an interview published in today's mass-circulation evening newspaper Yediot Aharonot.

Informed sources in Beirut close to the Syrian government said Syria had no intention of provoking a confrontation with Israel in southern Lebanon.

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Heavy mist and rain reduced visibility but the sounds of heavy machine guns and light

artillery could be heard, the villagers reported.

The area was later reported to be quiet.

The Voice of Lebanon radio meanwhile announced that the Lebanese Army might reoccupy the southern region of the country to halt continuing mutual shelling by civil war factions, the Voice of Lebanon Radio reported today.

The possibility of sending Lebanese troops to the area near the Israeli border was examined by Foreign Minister Fouad Boutros at a meeting today with members of the army general staff, the radio said.

The PCC is a legislative body with limited powers which acts as a link between the National Council and the 11-man Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The planned Damascus summit is part of intensive diplomatic activity to bring about a settlement of the conflict in the Middle East. United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim is scheduled to begin a Middle East tour in Cairo next week and the new American Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, is to visit six Middle East countries next month.

The sources said the Damascus summit was also likely to deal with moves to bring about a resumption of the Geneva Middle East conference which met briefly and inconclusively after the 1973 war.

One of the stumbling blocks on the way towards Geneva has been the problem of Palestinian representation. The J.N. General Assembly has called for the PLO to have its own delegation in Geneva. Israel, however, has consistently opposed to deal directly with the PLO.

According to the sources, the Syrian president is in favour of an overall Arab delegation including Palestinian representatives. Egypt, one of the original participants in the Geneva conference, has previously rejected this idea.

The sources said Syria considered Israeli warnings about the entry of Syrian peace-keeping forces into the south Lebanese town of Nabatiyah as an attempt to strengthen the position of the outgoing Israeli government before next May's general elections.

Nabatiyah is about 11 kms from the Israeli border but north of the Litani River, widely believed to form the "red line" beyond which Israel has said it would not tolerate any Arab forces.

In an interview published today in the Israeli evening newspaper Yediot Aharonot, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon warned that the southward advance of Syrian troops was bringing them "dangerously close to breaking the limits we can accept."

February confrontation summit expected to tackle Palestinian role in M.E. peace moves

BEIRUT, Jan. 28 (R). — The leaders of Syria, Egypt and Jordan are planning summit talks next month certain to be dominated by the role of the Palestinians in moves towards a Middle East settlement, informed sources said here today.

The sources, close to the Syrian leadership, said President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and His Majesty King Hussein had accepted invitations from Syrian President Hafez Assad to meet in Damascus.

Although no firm date has been fixed, the sources said the tripartite summit was tentatively scheduled for the middle of next month.

The sources said that the Palestinian resistance movement, would figure high on the agenda of the talks.

According to the sources, the meeting might be extended after initial rounds of talks to include Palestinian guerrilla leader Yasser Arafat and President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon.

The sources said the summit was expected to take place before a meeting of the Palestinian National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, which is scheduled for the second part of next month in Cairo.

The council meeting is aimed at redefining Palestinian policy towards Israel. The possibility of accepting a Palestinian mini-state on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip is likely to be the subject of heated debates.

Although a majority in the Palestine Liberation Organisation is now understood to be in favour of accepting such a state if it were offered, the hard-line Rejection Front is violently opposed to the idea.

The front led by Dr. George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, objects to a Palestinian mini-state alongside Israel.

The rejectionists have boycotted two meetings of the Palestinian Central Council (PCC) last December and earlier this year. But they are certain to attend the National Council meeting to try and swing it in favour of their line, observers here said.

product growth rate of between 3.25 and four per cent for this year, published a month ago.

"Our very tentative first assessment of this package is that it would have the impact of a four per cent increase on the GNP of the OECD area as a whole for this year, and somewhat more for the second half of the year," Mr. van Lennep told reporters after conferring with Mr. Mondale.

Mr. Mondale said he had discussed with Mr. van Lennep a proposed \$25 billion "safety net" fund to provide credits to Western countries in balance of payment difficulties because of higher oil prices.

The safety net was proposed by the Ford administration, but has not yet been acted upon. Mr. Mondale did not say whether the Carter administration would go ahead with the fund proposals.

Mr. Mondale briefed Mr. van Lennep and senior OECD officials on Mr. Carter's economic policy, plans to set up an energy department and a commitment to a "heightened involvement" in the OECD, which he

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

The Jordan Times appears the first time today in a new format. Instead of the former 12 columns, using a right-hand page, we are running the Wall Street report again. We hope that the new arrangement will be more pleasing to our readers.

The editorial staff

Waldheim will attend Makarios-Denktaş meet

AMMAN, Jan. 28 (Agencies). — President Makarios and Mr. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, are to have a second meeting here next Feb. 13 in company of United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, informed sources said today.

President Makarios and Mr. Denktaş had an initial meeting on Feb. 13 meeting will be working luncheon offered by Mr. Waldheim, the sources said. The Greek and Turkish representatives at the intercommunal negotiations, Mr. Theodoros Skantzaris and Mr. Umar al-Oman, would also be at the luncheon.

Mr. Waldheim, who leaves Amman on Monday for a nation Middle East tour, will include Cyprus on his agenda, a U.N. spokesman said today.

Mr. Waldheim's representative in Nicosia, Mr. Javier Pele Cueller, is in touch with sides in the Cyprus dispute, the spokesman added.

The meeting was described as a "very important" one, said President Makarios and Mr. Denktaş.

An official statement issued today by the Ministry of Information said the Greek and Turkish sides in the Cyprus dispute had agreed to meet in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, on Feb. 13.

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Yamani: Single pricing system a matter of time

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 28 (R). — Israel might be close to a new oil discovery in the Gulf of Suez that could alter the course of Middle East peace talks, the Los Angeles Times reported today.

The newspaper said the Israelis were drilling off the southern end of the Sinai Peninsula and have claimed discovery of "positive signs" of oil.

"If the Israelis find oil before the proposed Geneva peace talks with their Arab foes, it will give them a new card to play at the talks -- and perhaps a reason for not wanting to return to the Sinai to the Egyptians," the newspaper said.

The Times said the word on whether the Israelis had found oil was expected next month when the well gets down to 3,000 to 3,600 metres.

The Israeli rig, about 12 kms out at sea and visible from the Ramadan field, which Israel recently handed back to the Egyptians, is being manned by Canadians. It is being guarded round-the-clock by an Israeli patrol boat.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (APF). — Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani said in an interview published here today that negotiations would start very soon on ways to end the current two-tier crude oil pricing system.

Sheikh Yamani told the New York Times that he expected representatives of several member nations of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to visit Saudi Arabia soon, including Indonesia's oil minister.

In a second phase, but only after careful preparations, Saudi Arabia would be prepared to attend a special OPEC conference on the issue, whatever the venue and the date, the minister said.

He said he felt restoring a single price system was a matter of time, and expressed the view that Iran would play a key part in this respect.

The New York Times said he hinted that Iran and other OPEC countries would sooner or later rally to Saudi position that the 10 per cent price increase -- to be followed by another five per cent on July 1 -- which was agreed by the majority of OPEC members last month was not reasonable.

Vorster will not pressure Ian Smith

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 28 (R). — South African Prime Minister John Vorster said today he had not and would not put pressure on Rhodesia to accept a solution of its independence dispute that was dictated from outside.

"Demands to shut our borders and impose boycotts cannot be acceded to because they are contrary to the policy of this government," he told parliament here.

Mr. Vorster said he would rather risk the outcome than act dishonourably towards his white-ruled neighbour.

"Pressure will be exerted on South Africa to an increasing degree to exert pressure on others," he said. "I would rather bear the consequences."

"It is wrong to misuse that sort of power to force a man to do something against his will."

The prime minister, answering a week-long debate on an opposition no-confidence motion in the House of Assembly, said demands for him to put pressure on Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith had been made recently at the United Nations in U.S. Senate circles and elsewhere.

OPEC chairman campaigns for uniform 10% oil price rise

KUWAIT, Jan. 28 (R). — Oil exporting countries are considering a proposal that would restore price unity between them and restrict further increases this year, two Kuwaiti newspapers reported today.

The newspapers, Al Anba and Al Watan, said the proposal had been put forward by Sheikh Abdul Aziz Ibn Khalifa Al Thani, of Qatar, Chairman of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), during recent visits to Middle East oil states.

OPEC members split on pricing policy last month when 11 of them decided to raise the price of their oil by 15 per cent in two stages -- 10 per cent on Jan. 1, and a further five per cent on July 1. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the two remaining members, decided to limit their increase to five per cent.

The effect of Sheikh Abdul Aziz's proposal, if accepted, would be to restore OPEC's price unity and limit increases this year to 10 per cent, the newspapers said.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz, who is Qatar's petroleum and finance minister, visited Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Algeria over the past two weeks.

He is also sending special envoys to five other OPEC states: Gabon, Nigeria, Indonesia, Venezuela and Ecuador.

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Jordan, Belgium resume economic talks

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan and Belgium will resume their economic and commercial talks Saturday. The Belgian side will submit preliminary suggestions on a number of projects in which Jordanian institutions will most probably participate.

Two rounds of talks between the two sides, were held on Friday and Thursday. They were presided over by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Najasiddine Dehaili, and former Belgian Minister of Industry and Development, Mr. Cheyven, who is leading the Belgian team.

During their previous discussions the two sides reviewed Jordanian projects and determined those in which Belgium could participate either through design works and/or financing and implementation.

The Belgian team had also submitted proposals and offers on a number of Jordanian projects to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for study.

Artists board urged to prepare working plan

AMMAN (JNA). — The Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf, Thursday urged for the preparation of a working plan for the newly formed Jordanian Artists Association.

Talking to the newly elected seven members of the Board of Administration of the association, who visited him in his office, Sharif Fawwaz said that the plan should include future activities which will help organize, develop and bolster the artistic movement in Jordan.

The ministry "will extend every possible support and encouragement to the association," he assured them.

The ministry is to hold the first art exhibition in June this year on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein silver jubilee. The exhibition will include the works of almost all Jordanian artists.

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Nurses and midwives graduates hold candles and recite oath during their graduation ceremony given at the Professional Unions Hall Friday. (JNA photo).

95 midwives, nurses graduated

AMMAN (JNA). — The Nurses and Midwives Association Friday held a reception in honour of 95 graduates in nursing and midwifery at the Professional Association's Hall.

Twenty two nurses of both sexes were graduated from the School of Nursing of the University of Jordan. They are the first batch from the school to receive their diplomas after a four year nursing course.

Fifty six others were graduated from the Jordanian School of Nursing after three years of studies in addition to eight midwives from the Midwifery School which provides a three-year course in that field.

As for the Baptist Nursing School in Ajloun, it graduated nine nurses after a period of three years of study.

Addressing the graduates, the Administrative Director at the Ministry of Health, Dr. Ahmad Massa'deh, stressed the importance of the nursing profession and outlined the role nurses are called upon to assume to raise the standard of medical services.

AMMAN (JNA). — The Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, Sheikh Saqr Ibn Mohammad Al Qasimi and the accompanying delegation Friday morning paid a visit to Al Hussein Medical City where they were received by the deputy manager of the royal medical services and other high ranking officers.

Sheikh Saqr was briefed on the establishment and development of the city, the medical services it provides for the members of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the citizens and the Arab states.

The guest toured the different departments and clinics and had a look at their activities and duties.

Later in the day the Sheikh Saqr visited the Jordan Valley Commission station at Deir Alla where he was received by its Vice-President Dr. Munther Haddadeen and other top officials.

The guest listened to an explanation on the duties of the commission in increasing the agricultural yield of the valley, and the establishment of different projects such as housing, public and social services. The aim of such projects is to attract as many people as possible to plant and exploit the valley.

Dr. Haddadeen then explained to Sheikh Saqr the commission's plans for increasing the agricultural produce in the future.

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In the evening the guest paid a third visit to the Jordan Television Corporation where he was received by the Minister of Information Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh and the director of the television.

Sheikh Saqr inspected the different parts of the establishment and listened to an explanation given by the manager of the engineering department on the duties and activities of each department.

The guest was accompanied, through the day, by the Minister of Court, Mr. Amer Khammash, the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, and the Jordanian ambassador to UAE.

Meanwhile the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates gave a dinner banquet in honour of Sheikh Saqr at Al Hussein Youth City.

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Sheikh Saqr Al Qasimi, the Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, looks over a model of Al Hussein Medical City during his visit Friday. (JNA photo).

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the end of today's business day, set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much would receive in Jordanian dinars for a unit of foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

sterling	575.0	585.0
dollar	335.0	336.0
man mark	137.0	139.0
sch franc	67.0	68.0
ss franc	133.0	135.0
iran lira (for every 100)	37.0	38.0
di riyal	94.6	94.9
anese pound	1111.0	1124.0
lan pound	82.2	82.6
di dinar	943.0	950.0
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ptian pound	470.0	490.0
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The U.S. defence debate rages

Will the B-1 bomber ever see the light of day?

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM) — The debate over the B-1 bomber — whether it should succeed the B-52 as the primary strategic bomber of the United States — raises an important issue.

This issue is whether or not the time of the World War II type of bomber is at an end. The B-1, improved over the B-52, is such a bomber. It is intended basically to penetrate the territory of the enemy and drop gravity-type bombs on targets as well as fire missiles of various kinds.

Two of the Senate's great old campaigners, William Proxmire (D) of Wisconsin and Barry Goldwater (R) of Arizona have debated the issue in the grand manner — but inconclusively.

The final decision must be made by President Jimmy Carter, who will decide some time in the first half of 1977 whether Rockwell International should proceed with massive production of the B-1 — 244 of them by the mid-'80s, at a cost that may reach \$100 billion — or whether a lesser number should be built. And there may be other alternatives.

These include the possibility of rejuvenating all or some of the B-52s with new engines to increase speed and special rockets to quicken their takeoff. Also, the B-52s might be equipped with long-range cruise missiles which could allow the bombers to stay outside the im-

mediate defensive perimeter of the Soviet Union and shower targets with nuclear-tipped missiles.

A similar role could be played by a refined FB-111 — somewhat faster but smaller than the B-52 — or a wide-bodied transport plane like the Boeing-747.

Some experts believe the new president's final decision will be determined by what happens in the meantime in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). The decision on the maximum number of strategic delivery vehicles will be crucial.

At present, the United States has 1,464 missile-delivery vehicles, consisting of 1,000 Minutemen IIs and IIIs, 54 Titan IIs, 330 B-52s, and 80 FB-111s.

If the permissible number is finally brought down, the U.S. will have to decide what it wants — bombers or ICBMs. And, in so deciding, it will be necessary to figure that in the mid-'80s, if not sooner, the B-52 — even improved varieties — won't be able to penetrate to key targets in the Soviet Union. Soviet defences, already the most formidable in the world, are being improved all the time.

On this basis, the decision might be to produce the B-1 in quantity, as the only American bomber with a chance of penetrating Soviet defences.

Yet there will be a possible alternative decision. That wo-

uld be to say that even the B-1 has little chance of surviving over Soviet territory and that the United States must either produce a much more effective bomber or make do with the use of missiles.

Such missiles could be both the intercontinental ballistic variety — rockets that arch through the stratosphere all the way from the U.S. to the target — and cruise missiles which from land, sea or air travel to targets at treetop level, like little bombers, with silhouettes quite difficult to track with radar.

Meanwhile, Rockwell International, the main contractor, General Electric, which makes the engines, and the companies producing the avionics are proceeding with work on three prototype bombers (one already completed) at Rockwell's Palmdale, California, plant — and on some long lead-time aspects of eight more bombers.

The estimated cost is \$93.8 million per plane. It would cost \$22.8 billion to build the total of 244. The calculation that the real cost could ultimately top \$100 billion is reached by adding not only inflation but the cost of weapons — short-range attack missiles, long-range cruise missiles, bombs — and technological improvements of various kinds.

Senators and others continue to debate.

Mr. Proxmire wound up a series of six speeches in the Senate arguing that the age of the manned strategic penetrating bomber is over the flying missions into the heart of the USSR with gravity bombs is virtually suicidal.

"Think of it," he said. "The Soviet Union has devoted more resources for defensive purposes than any other nation in the history of the world.

"Our B-1s would have to take off from U.S. bases, where they are observable to Soviet satellites; fly towards the USSR, where they could be picked up by Soviet over-the-horizon radar and long-range acquisition radar; then find a hole in the Soviet radar net consisting of 5,500 radar sites; fly around the 10,000 surface-to-air missiles deployed on the perimeter of the USSR and clustered around specific targets; avoid being detected and shot down by the 2,600 Soviet interceptors; elude conventional ground-to-air munitions around terminally defended targets; blast entrance and escape paths with short-range attack missiles without giving away its position; bomb the targets; escape the nuclear blast; and find a way home through the hundreds if not thousands of other nuclear blasts going off in the atmosphere.

"That is about as close to a suicide kamikaze mission as I can envision."

Senator Proxmire argues that modern technology could supply enough cruise missiles to saturate any known Soviet targets without risking the lives of pilots.

In his opinion, the Air Force — like the Navy, which would not give up battleships — refuses to recognise the end of the World War II bomber.

It almost makes me think that, if the Air Force had a ground-force mission, we still would be breeding cavalry horses," he concludes.

Senator Proxmire's views are based on elaborate arguments, the most central of which may be his belief that the Air Force, in order to avoid disastrous upward spiralling of costs, cut down the characteristics originally envisaged six years ago, step by step, until the B-1 is anything but a superplane.

Originally billed to fly at a speed of mach 2.2 (2.2 times the speed of sound), the plane was degraded to mach 1.6 (although a prototype has flown at mach 2.1).

Thus the engineers sacrificed much of a capacity which the B-1, in any case, could have found of little value, since supersonic flight is possible only at great heights, whereas survival requires the interloping aircraft to stay between 600 and 1500 metres altitude where its speed is much slower.

Only at such low altitudes can any plane hope to elude the Soviet radar. But by designing for supersonic capability, the engineers sacrificed other qualities, notably space available and range.

Supersonic capability required the design of the B-1 as a swing-wing, with resulting loss of space and simplicity. Yet at mach 1.6 it would hardly outrun many of the Soviet interceptors.

But defenders of the B-1 say that it would be travelling at very low altitudes, which would put defending fighter-interceptors at a disadvantage. The Soviets are believed to be years behind the U.S. in radar-electronics technology which allows radar devices to "look down" and "shoot down" targets below them.

In addition, some of the B-1's special capacity to escape heat-seeking missiles also was sacrificed to the supersonic capacity which requires lavish use of its afterburner.

Takeoff speed was increased, and ability to land on short runways was curtailed — all in the interests of lowering cost — thereby depriving the B-1 of the capacity to use one hundred or more runways in the interior of the United States, claim B-1 opponents.

Senator Goldwater, in one of his many replies, lashed Mr. Proxmire and his dislike of the B-1 to the man who wrote:

I do not like thee, Dr. Fell. The reason why I cannot tell. But this I know and know darn well. I do not like thee, Dr. Fell. The B-1, he maintained, would manage very well to penetrate the toughest of Soviet defences and destroy assigned targets.

Re-engining the B-52 would not work because it is, on the average, 23 years old and could not stand the punishment of such high-speed and low-level flight. The plane would, furthermore, be "soft" in terms of withstanding nuclear shock waves.

Proponents of the B-1 are swift and voluble in defence of this aircraft which, they insist, is far superior to the B-52 and is, above all, capable of penetrating the well-defended airspace of the Soviet Union. They argue as follows:

Whereas the oldest of the B-52s dates from 1952, the youngest from 1962, the B-1 is today's aircraft, still absorbing the very latest technology.

While the B-1 is only two-thirds the size of the B-52, it carries twice the payload. Whereas the B-52 is cluttered to the point where there is no room at all anymore, the B-1 has plenty of space aboard to grow, to add new electronic devices as they become available. Furthermore, it is built to last 30 years.

The B-1 is the most thoroughly tested aircraft in the history of the American Air Force, its advocates say.

Its radar-reflectivity is only one-third that of the B-52, and its exterior and avionics are hardened by the use of titanium and other rare metals to withstand nuclear blast.

Its takeoff distance is so much shorter than that of the B-52 that it would be able to use about 200 airfields in the United States that are too short for the B-52 — which would allow wide dispersal of the B-1 and make it less a target of ICBMs.

It is easier to service the B-1; its four engines are easier to reach than the eight of the B-52.

The B-1 is capable of prolonged low-level flight thanks to its "canard", a stabilising rudder attached near the forward part of the plane. The B-52 can also fly at treetop level, but its ride, in the absence of the "canard", is so rough at that level as to become intolerable over long periods.

A commission of experts appointed by former Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld reached a unanimous and enthusiastic conclusion about the B-1. The group wrote as follows:

"We believe that the speed

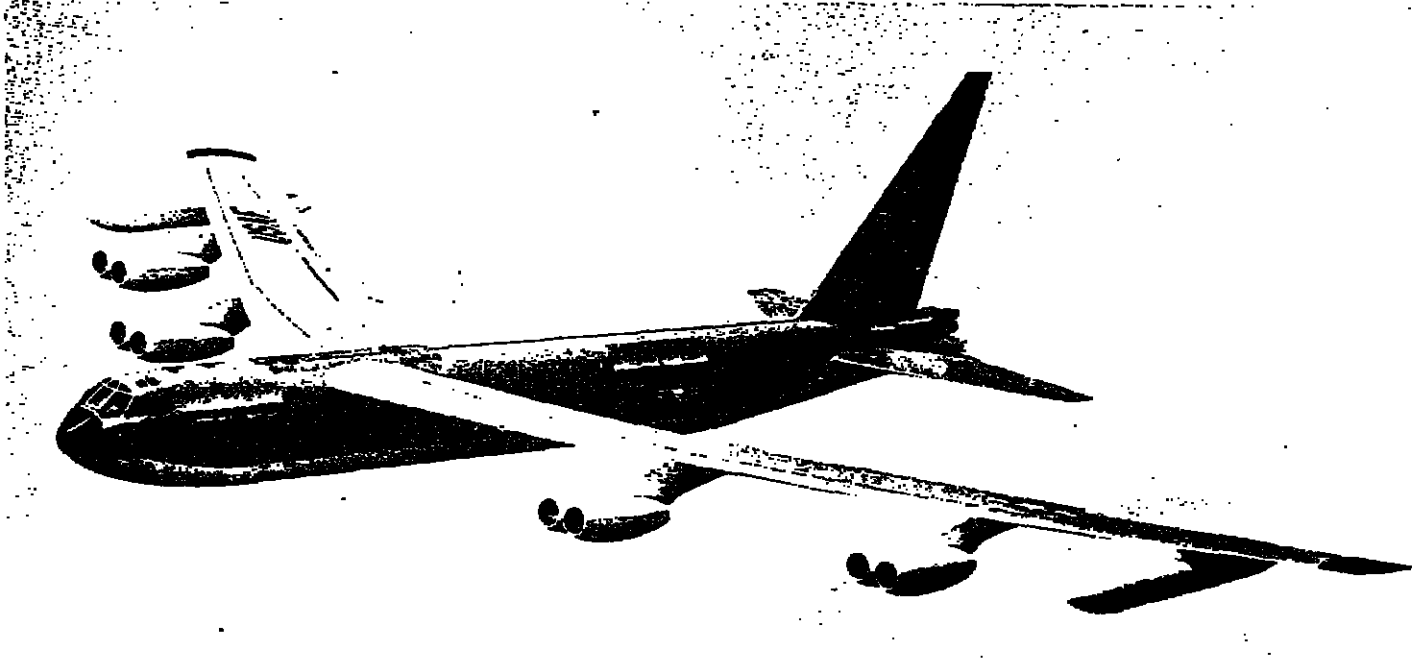
at low altitude, electron intermeasures (ECM) and low radar cross-section, hardness of the B-1 provide better answers of field meeting the range of po threats better than do the forces which do not elude the B-1.

"Furthermore, we believe the B-1 can use these for capabilities at comparable or earlier than any of the other systems."

The somewhat debate is joined by an equivalent in learned journals press. The arguments, however, necessarily have so many unknowns — as the future capacity of defences and the limit nuclear-tipped vehicles may be decided by SALT II — that a conclusion cannot be reached.

Among knowledgeable analysts, it is believed Mr. Carter — his stated aim for the B-1 notwithstanding — is most likely to compromise. That would mean opting for a smaller number of B-1s, leaving to the final determination of the United States needs new strategic bomber.

B-1 supersonic bomber prototype takes off from Rockwell's Palmdale, California racinny. whether it will ever go into active service is a debatable question.



The B-52 -- aging workhorse.

Fear clouds truth about atmospheric pollution

LONDON (CSM). — If you're worried that human activity may upset the climate, B. J. Mason, head of Britain's Meteorological Office, has a message for you — hang on to your cool. He feels that Earth's climate is so robust, so inherently stable, that people haven't come anywhere near to endangering it yet.

This does not mean there is no reason for long-term concern. The continuing buildup of carbon dioxide, which could gradually warm the atmosphere, does give Dr. Mason pause, for example.

But he believes there still is time to study calmly and carefully what is happening and to try to perfect our understanding of what may actually lie ahead.

Making this point in a recent lecture at Britain's Royal Society, Dr. Mason noted the concern that some meteorologists have felt that man-made dust may contaminate the atmosphere and block incoming sunlight enough to significantly cool Earth.

He explained that computer simulations of a dust layer thick enough to block 4 per cent

of the sunshine had no discernible effect on the lower atmosphere.

Dr. Mason also takes a dim view of moves in the United States to ban certain fluorocarbon propellants in spray cans. He does not feel the danger that these chemicals will destroy ozone in the stratosphere, ozone which filters out dangerous solar ultraviolet rays, to be sufficiently proved to justify such drastic action.

Five more years of data gathering and computer studies would give better insight into what the danger really is with little risk to the ozone layer, he believes.

Dr. Mason is right in detecting a strong degree of emotionalism and fear behind the drive to ban the spray cans. This is no way to respond to a situation in which human activity may affect climate, but in which our greatest need is for a better sense of what actually is happening.

Even the carbon dioxide-caused warming, which many meteorologists now think likely, may not be harmful. Some theorists have forecast it could cause an ice age. Others suggest it might melt the ice caps to flood coastal cities.

Wondering what happened last time Earth was 2 to 4 degrees C. Warmer than today, William W. Kellogg of the U.S. National Centre for Atmospheric Research has taken a look at that period around 5,000 years ago.

He found rainfall shifted so that subtropical deserts could support farming. Temperate zones had an extra week of growing period. Europe was wetter, Scandinavia drier, and North America had a belt of drier grass lands. Such a shift now might increase the world's agricultural potential.

Dr. Kellogg cautions that carbon dioxide warming may not produce this pattern. We do not know what factors entered into that period 5,000 years ago. But he does show that a general warming need not necessarily be bad.

As Dr. Mason says, this is no time to panic over climate. It is time, though, to support wide-ranging study to see where we may be heading.

Poclain And Case-Tenneco Agreement

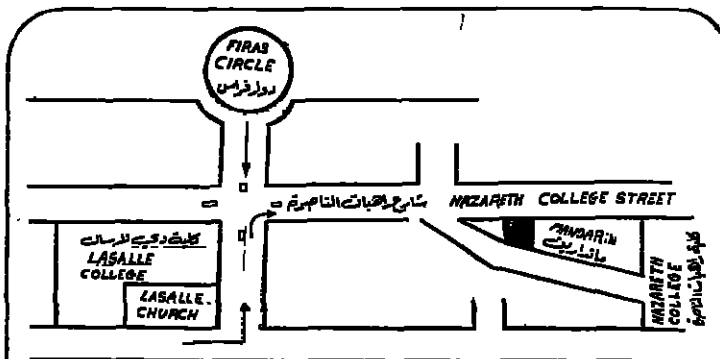
The management of POCLAIN announces that their negotiations with the American group CASE-TENNECO have resulted in an agreement in principle which will be submitted for approval to the French and American authorities, to the respective boards of directors, and to an extraordinary general meeting of POCLAIN shareholders. However, at this present stage of negotiations, POCLAIN would like to inform all those who have confidence in them.

Under the terms of this agreement CASE-TENNECO will have a minority holding of 40 per cent in the capital of POCLAIN S.A.: this will be achieved by an increase in capital reserved for CASE-TENNECO at 31 francs per new share, that is to say approximately 195 million francs will be brought into the company. Moreover, it is planned to transfer certain POCLAIN assets abroad, bringing TENNECO's total investment to about 325 million francs.

J. I. CASE is a subsidiary 100 per cent of TENNECO, the 22nd American group, with its diversified activities and great financial potential. The turnover of CASE itself is \$1.2 million, 70 per cent of which is achieved in North America.

The activities of POCLAIN and CASE are complementary from both the product and the market point of view. CASE-TENNECO's financial support will enable the POCLAIN group to continue its expansion. Total sales of both companies will put them in third place on the list of manufacturers of public works machinery in the world, thus giving the dimension necessary for coping with international competition and for taking the best possible advantage of all development opportunities.

These negotiations are continuing with the interests of staff, shareholders, customers and suppliers always in mind, whilst maintaining previous agreements.



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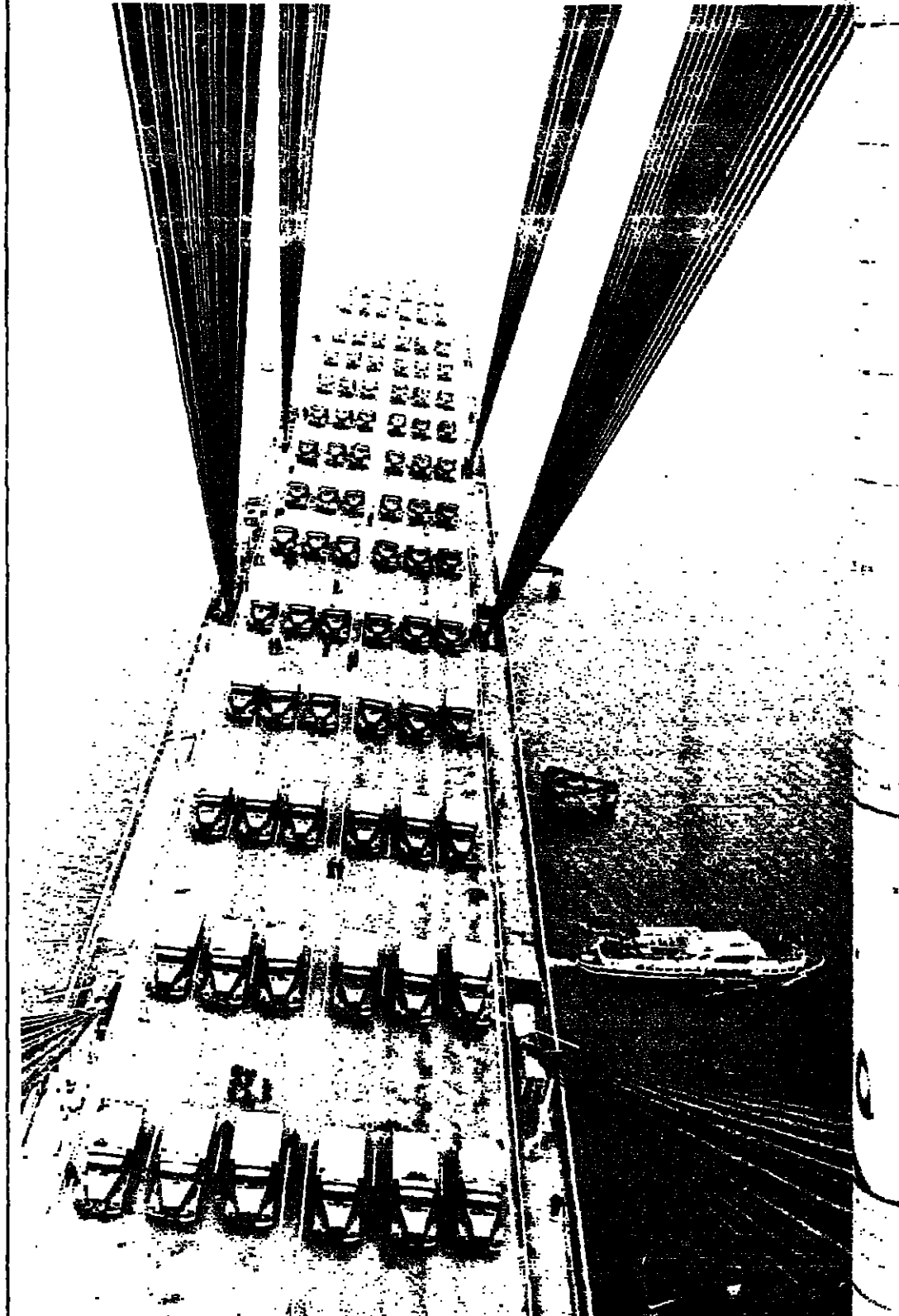
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BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER DNIEPER



This suspension bridge, recently opened to traffic in the city of Kiev, capital of the Ukraine, has become the city's sixth bridge over the Dnieper River and is largest in the Soviet Union. The 30-metre-wide bridge links the ring road near the largest residential area of Obolon and provides a direct route from the densely populated districts of the city to the suburban zone outside. The bridge is capable of carrying 120 heavily-loaded trucks at a time. The project has been developed by scientists and specialists from several major research institutes and enterprises. The first huge 300-metre-long main span has been built and 300 specially designed stays, each 150 metres long, have been erected ahead of schedule to hold the bridge.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

Jerusalem Post: F-16 is Israel's next fighter plane

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (AFP). — The United States F-16 will be Israel's next fighter plane, the Jerusalem Post said today. The signature of a contract awaits the working out of co-production rights. Present United States hesitation was due

to fear of possible claims of unfair competition from European countries who co-produce the aircraft. The average work hour in Israel is far cheaper than in European countries and labour is one of the major production components, the newspaper pointed out. The initial Israeli request was likely to cover an initial shipment of entirely foreign-made aircraft while subsequent units would be partly manufactured in Israel.

Quoting foreign sources, the Jerusalem Post added that Israel wished to order between 200 and 250 aircraft. Together with the locally-produced Kfir fighters and 25 McDonnell-Douglas F-15S, for special assignment duties, the F-16 would constitute the backbone of the Israeli air force during the 1980s, the Israeli daily said.

Moroccan "leftists" on trial accused of planning civil war

RABAT, Jan. 28 (R). — The 178 "leftists" now on trial before a criminal court in Casablanca planned to provoke a civil war in Morocco and the violent overthrow of the regime of King Hassan II, according to an official commentary broadcast last night.

In a text issued today, the state radio said foreigners were implicated in the "leftist" plot which also had the moral and material support of "well-known foreign organisations" which were not specified.

The radio said the plotters had been found with "tracts, documents and subversion plans" in several cities and areas of the country where they set up highly trained cells. They planned to "propagate Marxist-Leninist principles among students and workers, and set up a pact between farmers and workers to train armed groups in a secret military centre, to launch subversive operations to be transformed into a people's war to usurp power by violence," the radio declared.

The commentator said the plot in Morocco was similar to extremist agitation in Egypt, Tunisia, Spain, Germany, Italy, Britain, Lebanon, Syria, Portugal, the Gulf states and Iran.



LEFTIST SLOGANS -- Leftist students paint political slogans on a main Istanbul avenue Thursday during a funeral rally for two youths slain by unidentified gunmen Tuesday night.

Somalia announces support for Sudanese call to move OAU H.Q. out of Ethiopia

KHARTOUM, Jan. 28 (R). — Somalia yesterday announced its support for a Sudanese suggestion that the headquarters of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) be moved out of Ethiopia, the Sudan news agency reported.

Somali Health Minister Musse Rabilleh who is attending the second congress of the Sudanese Socialist Union here, told

the agency his government supported the call because of "the disgraceful attitude taken recently by the Ethiopian government against sister Sudan."

Chinese radio stations report: Shanghai radicals still fight

PEKING, Jan. 28 (R). — Provincial radio stations have reported violence and death in troubled areas of China, hinted at official executions and warned that radical elements are putting up "a last-ditch fight" in Shanghai.

Shanghai, with a population of 10 million, was the power base of the purged "gang of four" leftist radicals led by Mao Tse-tung's widow, Chang Ching.

In strategic Fukien Province, facing Taiwan across the Formosa Strait, the local radio said: "Some people put up reactionary posters, shot and killed revolutionaries and created a serious counter-revolutionary incident." It gave no dates for the rioting.

Speakers at a conference in the strife-torn city of Paoting, 180 kms. south of Peking, were quoted in another broadcast as praising the army for "improving weapons, stopping violent struggles and arresting bad people."

Hopi Province Radio reported that People's Liberation Army unit 51034 organised mass rallies in Paoting for "public judgement" and "enforced proletarian dictatorship over a number of counter-revolutionary elements and chief criminals."

Enforcing proletarian dictatorship is generally interpreted as meaning execution. Last month a Chinese official said the situation in Paoting was "gradually improving" after reports that rival political factions had taken hostages and engaged in gun fights and sabotage.

Provincial radios have previously referred to violence in 12 of China's 29 provinces, but most of it took place before last October's roundup of radical leaders charged with trying to seize power.

The People's Daily newspaper reported last month that more than 12,000 troops had to be sent to Fukien Province to put down what it described as factionalism and sabotage

incited by the purged radicals. In one of the new broadcasts, Fukien Radio said an unnamed "leading member" has been accused of struggling against "thousands of cadres and workers who were held in custody and interrogated or even deprived of their wages and rations."

Meanwhile Shanghai Radio, quoting local newspapers, reported that radical sympathisers in the city were not reconciled to defeat and were "putting up a last-ditch fight, indulging in petty and mean tricks."

Shanghai's ruffians and radicals, political thugs and reactionary bourgeoisie "still had considerable strength, the radio said."

Foreign correspondents were told by officials on a recent visit to the city that Shanghai's millions were the first to turn against Mme. Mao and her followers and were busy condemning them in conferences, wall posters and even songs and poems.

British journalist expelled Leftists say 188 arrested in Egypt

CAIRO, Jan. 28 (Agencies). — A total of 188 intellectuals, mainly leftwingers, is known to have been arrested following last week's price riots in Egypt, leftwing circles said here today.

In addition to four journalists whose arrest was announced in the press after the riots, the 188 include at least three "vers who specialise in political ca...". Mr. Nabil Al Hilali, Mr. Zaki Murad, and Mr. Abdullah Al Zondy, according to circles close to the Progressive Unionist Rally, the only officially-authorized Egyptian leftwing party.

Other intellectuals held were said to include Mr. Abdul Moneim Al Ghazaly, a journalist of the magazine Al Tall'a and secretary of the Arab editorial staff of the Communist World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), and the WFTU Egyptian delegate, Halim Tussum, Editor-in-Chief of the magazine Socialist Studies.

Journalists known earlier to

have been arrested include Mr. Rifa' Al Said, a member of the secretariat of the Progressive Unionist Rally and historian of the Egyptian socialist movement. An editor of Al Tall'a, and right-hand man of the rally's leader, Khaled Mohieddin.

The same circles said that these arrests, which were not yet over, because, they said, arrest warrants had also been issued for persons known to be in hiding, aimed at "decapitating" the Egyptian left, which for several years now has been in a more or less clandestine situation.

from Egypt this morning. He said four plainclothesmen entered his Cairo room after midnight and asked him to dress and go before taking him to police headquarters and then to port.

"I thought I was going to be interrogated in a cell where. When I protested, they called him... He believed he had been expelled because the authorities was that he was not in order.

Bonn economics minister to visit Saudi Arabia

BONN, Jan. 28 (R). — Bonn Economics Minister Hans Friedrichs flies to Saudi Arabia tomorrow to discuss West Germany's economic cooperation

with the world's biggest oil-producing country. He heads a 20-man mission of officials, experts and private industrialists taking part in

the second sitting of the two couns in 1975.

West Germany's export Saudi Arabia topped in the first time last year, it the Arab kingdom's biggest trading partner America and Japan.

Saudi Arabia supplied cent of West Germany's ports at a cost of 4.5 marks (1.125 billion).

(Ministry officials said the talks would centre on cultural cooperation and field of development aid.

Informed economic said West Germany is in ed in concluding a treaty the basis for more sive German capital inve in Saudi Arabia.

The treaty is necessary order that the West government can underwate German investment sources explained. It to have it ready for this year.

Observers here noted former West German mnce Minister Prof. Karl ler has recently been ad economic adviser to udi Arabian government

If elections were held now in Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 28 (AFP). — An opinion poll published here today showed that the Labour Alignment of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin would lose about one third of its seats in the Knesset if elections were held immediately.

The poll, published in Yedioth Aharonoth, also showed that key man in the future legislature would be Mr. Yigal Yadin, leader of the Democratic Party for Change, a centrist party moderate on foreign affairs and committed to domestic reforms.

The Labour Party, according to the poll, would keep only 35 of its present 51 seats in the one -- chamber parliament, while the Likud group would drop to 35 from 39.

Mr. Yadin's party, on the other hand, would win 19 seats if elections were held immediately, though it currently holds none.

Projected representation of other parties was as follows: National Religious Party, nine, down from 10 in the present legislature, Independent Liberals, zero (four), Moked -- including Communists and Zionists -- one (one).

Elections are scheduled for May 17 in the wake of Prime Minister Rabin's resignation on Dec. 21. Israel currently has a caretaker government headed by Mr. Rabin.

U.S. had 2nd biggest trade deficit in 1975

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 (R). — The United States had the second biggest trade deficit in its history last year amounting to \$5.9 billion, the Commerce Department said today.

However when earnings from insurance, freight and tourism are counted, the U.S. is expected to show a surplus on its trade payments.

Last month alone, the deficit was \$551.4 million, down sharply from the record \$806.2 million in November.

During the year, U.S. exports increased only seven per cent to \$114.8 billion, but imports rose by 26 per cent from \$96.1 billion to 120.7 billion.

Demands for imported oil and other energy products jumped sharply and the total bill for foreign energy shot up by 28 per cent to more than \$32 billion.

The price of imported crude imports rose 39 per cent to \$25.5 billion. This reflected an increase in crude imports of nearly 500 million barrels to more than two billion barrels and rising oil prices. A barrel

cost an average \$12.43 dollars last year, up 80 cents from 1975.

The trade balance figures only take merchandise imports and exports into account. The overall balance of payments, which includes some capital flows, is likely to show a small deficit this year and the shortfall is likely to widen next year.

Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal told a Congressional committee yesterday that the United States and other financially strong nations should be prepared to run deficits in their balances of payments to help bolster the economies of weaker nations.

LONDON AFTERNOON GOLD FIXING PRICE: \$131.30 / oz.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

PRAGUE, Jan. 28 (R). — Six prominent Czechoslovak dissidents came under official pressure today to leave for Austria in the next 48 hours but all were resisting the move, dissident sources reported. The sources said five of the men were called this morning to the passport office in Prague and offered the chance to travel to Austria -- without losing their Czechoslovak nationality.

ADDIS ABABA, Jan. 28 (R). — Students stoned British and American cultural offices here today and apparently tried to set fire to the British Council library. As the students smashed library windows, staff inside found a bottle of inflammable liquid and used matches on the floor where the liquid had been splashed over a wide area. The United States Information Agency building nearby was also attacked and windows of the ground-floor library were broken.

4 Soviet writers appeal to world leaders on behalf of Nobel peace laureate Andrei Sakharov

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 28 (AFP). — Benin yesterday requested a United Nations Security Council meeting to discuss the attack, attributed to "mercenaries of imperialism", against the city of Etonou and its airport last Jan. 16, it was announced here yesterday. In a letter to the Security Council chairman, Benin's Charge d'Affaires Patrice Houngavou asked for a council meeting to "discuss the cowardly, barbarous aggression of imperialism and its mercenaries against the People's Republic of Benin."

TOKYO, Jan. 28 (R). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will formally open its representative office in Tokyo on Feb. 1. Mr. Fathi Abdul Hamid, 42-year-old former head of the New Delhi office, said he aims to promote mutual understanding and trust between the Japanese and Palestinians.

MOSCOW, Jan. 28 (Agencies). — Four Soviet writers have sent a telegram to Western leaders calling for support for Nobel peace laureate Andrei Sakharov who they said was in danger of being silenced by the authorities.

The telegram, a text of which was handed to Western newsmen in Moscow, said any police move against Dr. Sakharov would be a violation of the final act of the European Security Conference in Helsinki in 1975.

It was addressed among others to President Jimmy Carter, Britain's Queen Elizabeth, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, of West Germany, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria and Pope Paul VI.

Referring to a warning to halt "slandering activities" issued to Dr. Sakharov earlier this week by the Soviet Public Prosecutor's Office, the telegram said the physicist was in danger of criminal prosecution.

"For him personally, it is mortal danger," the telegram said.

"At the same time an atal punishment of and Andrei Sakharov, a fight human rights and freedom information, would mean violation of the Helsinki ements, a return to a rry regime and would with it a real danger to peace."

The official warning Sakharov was issued a ment issued to Western ters that elements of the security police had pla bomb which killed at les people in the Moscow on Jan. 8.

The signatories of the sage were Lydia Chouly, daughter of childer ter Kornei Choukovski author in her own right dimir Volinovich, aut The Soldier Chomkh, I pelev who was the mc the character of Rubin xander. Solzhenitsyn's Cancer Word and the p dimir Kornilov.



Dr. Andrei Sakharov (right) during a press conference in his Moscow apartment.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices edged up a moderate gain Friday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average won nearly three points in moderate trading. News that the index of leading economic indicators rose to a 17 months high in December encouraged investors but they are still worried about the consequences of the extraordinary cold weather in the United States, thus the moderation of the rally. Strangely enough, declines outnumbered advances at the close by a 753 to 674 margin. Computers were steady, IBM gained 3 3/4 at 272.5 as well as oils with Mobil raising 3/4 at 27.25.

At the close the industrial average shows at 957.53, a gain of 2.99 points.

22,700,000 shares changed hands of which 14,120,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Government bonds were a firm feature Friday with rises of over one point among longer maturities in anticipation of the reduction in the Bank of England minimum lending rate dealers said.

Short dates tended softer prior to the close on expectations of a new loan, they added.

Gains in this sector ranged to about one-half point prior to 15:30.

Equity leaders ended higher despite end account profittaking. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 7.2 at 397.9.

Cavenham featured in equities rising to 114p from 93p overnight after potential offer from 113 French parent Generale Occidentale, for the Cavenham equity it does not already hold.

Another major feature was the 22p jump to 130p in John Brown following the forecast of sharply increased profits. These sharp gains contributed to much of the 7.2 rise in the F.T. index.

Gold shares ended narrowly mixed but with a firmer bias in response to further professional buying, dealers said.

In rubbers, Golden Hope rose around 5p to 85p following the offer from Genting.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

LONDON, Jan. 28 (AFP). — The Bank of England today lowered its minimum lending rate (MLR) by one full point to 12.25 per cent. It was the second major adjustment of the rate in just over a week. The rate is now at its lowest level since last September. Today's adjustment was generally anticipated because of a heavy inflow of foreign funds, and high demand for British Treasury Bonds. But the size of the reduction caused surprise in the City for the central bank yesterday warned that it would not allow the rate to drop by more than three-quarters of a point.

GENEVA, Jan. 28 (R). — Swissair and Middle East Airlines have concluded an agreement for more flights between Swiss airports and Beirut, the Swiss company announced in a statement today. From next week, Middle East Airlines will have three return flights a week between the Lebanese capital and Geneva and two flights between Beirut and Zurich. Swissair will not reintroduce its own flights to Beirut, broken off after the start of the Lebanese civil war, until the airline has reorganised its Lebanese operations, the statement said.

PARIS, Jan. 28 (R). — The Soviet Union is likely to produce some 40 million tonnes less oil in 1980 than it plans, international economic experts predicted today. An Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) report on world energy resources said the current five-year economic plan provided for production of 620 million tonnes of oil in 1980, compared with 493 million in 1975.

PARIS, Jan. 28 (R). — French Transport Minister Marcel Cavaille said here today that the decision by the American company Western Airlines to buy new U.S. aircraft instead of the European A-300 Airbus may have been political. "Arguments put forward by the airline to justify its choice are not convincing," he told reporters. "I wonder whether the Airbus, which is a Franco-German plane, has not fallen foul of political considerations?"

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 (AFP). — Banks are playing a much bigger role today in financing operations in non-oil developing countries, Morgan Guaranty said in the latest issue of its publication "World Financial Markets". In the period 1974-76 the banks' share in financing for these countries rose to 42 per cent as against only 20 per cent in the previous three-year period. It said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) should do more for nations suffering a chronic payments deficit. One idea would be a "super-tranche" for emergency situations, as suggested last year to an IMF committee.

BRITISH LADIES OF AMMAN

The next meeting will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday Feb. 2, at the British Embassy Club

At 11 a.m. Mrs. Najwa Abdul Hadi will give a talk on "The Spice Route"

New members welcome...

Handwritten Arabic text: "مركزنا هو التصل"